

Message Text

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E.O. 11652 /A

TAGS: PINT, US, PA

SUBJ JACK ANDERSON ARTICLE

1. ON JULY 14, JACK ANDERSON'S COLUMN "THE WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND" REFERRED TO PARAGUAY. SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF TEXT FOLLOWS: QUOTE:

2. THE U.S. TAXPAYERS HAVE BEEN BUILDING GUNBOATS FOR THE PARAGUAYAN NAVY, WHICH HAS BEEN HAULING NARCOTICS DOWN-RIVER TO ASUNCION, WHERE THE DOPE IS FLOWN TO THE UNITED STATES.

3. THE SECRET REPORTS, WHICH TELL OF THE NAVY'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE DOPE SMUGGLING DOWN THE PARAGUAY RIVER, DON'T SPECIFY WHETHER AMERICAN-BUILT GUNBOATS WERE ACTUALLY USED TO TRANSPORT NARCOTICS.

4. BUT CLASSIFIED PENTAGON DOCUMENTS SHOW THE NAVY CONTRACTED WITH THE SEWART SEACRAFT YARDS IN 1970 TO BUILD THREE 40-FOOT PATROL CRAFT. THE DEAL WAS ARRANGED THROUGH THE U.S. NAVY'S NEW ORLEANS OFFICE.

5. PARAGUAY'S LITTLE NAVY OPERATES ON THE RIVER, WHICH BISECTS THE COUNTRY, AS PART OF THE PERSONAL FLEET OF THE STRONGMAN, GENERAL ALFREDO STROESSNER.

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6. SIX OF THE SAME 40-FOOT GUNBOATS WERE ALSO BUILT FOR IRAN IN 1970, THE CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT SHOWS. IN 1972, THE U.S. CONTRACTED TO BUILD ANOTHER SIX 50-FOOT PATROL BOATS FOR CAMBODIA, AN 85-FOOT PATROL CRAFT FOR BOTH THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND GUATEMALA AND A 40-FOOT PLANE PERSONNEL RESCUE SHIP FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

7. WHEN WE QUESTIONED THE NAVY ABOUT HIS GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY, A HORRIFIED SPOKESMAN DECLARED: "IT'S CLASSIFIED. THAT DOCUMENT HAS BEEN COMPROMISED."

8. THE ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN APPROVED, HE SAID, BY THE WHITE HOUSE, THE PENTAGON AND THE CONGRESS. BUT HE REFUSED TO SAY HOW MUCH IT COST THE U.S. APPARENTLY, IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR A DICTATOR TO KNOW HOW MUCH HE IS GETTING FROM THE AMERICAN TAXPAYERS, BUT ILLEGAL FOR THE TAXPAYERS TO KNOW HOW MUCH THEY ARE HELPING THE DICTATOR. RUSH

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